

***IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE***

Appl. No.: 09/674,819      Examiner: Teresa D. Wessendorf  
Applicant: Akira Aomatsu et al.      Docket No: PC17354  
Filing Date: November 6, 2000      Confirmation No. 5038  
Art Unit: 1639

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patent  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111**

Dear Sir:

This communication is responsive to the non-final Office Action dated August 22, 2007. The shortened three-month statutory period was set to expire on November 22, 2007. Included herewith is a petition for a three-month extension of time and applicants request the fee for the extension of time be charged to Deposit Account No. 16-1445. Accordingly, the period for responding to the Office Action is February 22, 2008, and applicants believe this communication is timely filed. Applicants believe that no additional fee is required for acceptance of this communication. However, should any fees be required, the Patent Office is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 16-1445. Applicants likewise believe that no additional extension of time is required for acceptance of this communication. However, should a petition for extension of time be required for acceptance of this communication, applicants hereby petition for any extensions of time required for timely acceptance of the papers submitted herewith under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and authorize payment of such extension fees to Deposit Account No. 16-1445.

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begin on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 5 of this paper.